Double stack container on Kandla-Bhatinda rail line

3524. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for providing facility of double stack container on Kandla-Bhatinda railway line is under consideration of Government;

(b) whether any proposal has been prepared by Railway authorities to provide such double stack facility in any other part of India; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Railways have cleared the running of Double Stack Container trains on Jaipur-Pipavav and on Jaipur-Mundra Port routes and such trains have run on these routes.

New railway lines in Kerala

3525. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB PEEVEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received proposals for new railway line in Kerala;

(b) whether Government is aware that the Nilambur-Nanjangud railway line would greatly benefit the information technology industry in Kerala; and

(c) if so, whether Government proposes to sanction this line on priority basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) An updating survey for construction of Nilambur Road-Nanjangud new line has been completed recently. As per the survey report, cost of construction of 238.40 kms. long new line has been assessed as Rs. 1742.109 crore with Rate of Return of (-)5.907%. In view of a number of major IT industrial houses setting up industries in the States of Kerala and Karnataka, travel needs of their employees have also been taken into consideration in this report for the proposed new line for Nilambur Road—Nanjangud. Further consideration of this proposal would be possible once the decision on the results of the survey are finalised.

Model stations

†3526. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that expansion and advancement of world-class modern stations, is under consideration in year 2008;

(b) the names of stations alongwith station-wise details thereof; and

(c) the estimated total expenditure involved in it?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi